

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY CHILDREN'S NETWORK CBO PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

EAST VALLEY COLLABORATIVE

MISSION/PURPOSE

The East Valley Collaborative is a community partnership, committed to sharing collective knowledge and resources to enhance the quality of life by supporting youth and their families through education and the provision of mental, physical and social services.

MEETING MINUTES July 15, 2003

In Attendance:

June Chandler, Early Head Start	(909) 885-2584
Stephani Congdon, Bethel Community Outreach	(909) 757-7363
Melinda Corral	(909) 793-4160
Tony Diaz, Catholic Charities	(909) 880-3625
Tracy Diaz, Home Again	(909) 792-9626
Joy Ellington, Educational Eclipse	(909) 833-1067
Joe Guzman, Mental Health Systems, Inc.	(909) 890-1523
Robert Hernandez, PTLC	(909) 889-4399
Veatrice Jews, IECAAC	(909) 884-7522
Rosemary Merrin, New House, Inc.	(909) 881-0395
Robin Crandall, New House, Inc.	(909) 881-0395
Victoria Stephen, Early Head Start	(909) 885-2584
Nick Watson, Public Health	(909) 384-5600
Jennifer Arnold, EMQ Children & Family Services	(909) 266-2700
Raylene Angulo, Planned Parenthood SB	(909) 890-0333
Donesha Pegues, Planned Parenthood SB	(909) 890-5515 X1
Tanya Mejia, Public Health	(909) 386-8165
Mary Lou Lutz, San Bernardino City Schools	(909) 880-6802
America Valle, County Schools – State Preschool	(909) 433-4610
Kevin Burton, Valley Start Children & Family Services	(909) 328-2222 pager
Venice Waggoner, County Preschool Services	(909) 383-3442
Ted Henson, SB Police Department	(909) 384-5783
Mary Jaquish, CBO Partnership – Chair	(909) 387-9074
Tammy Williams, Children's Network	(909) 387-5365

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mary welcomed everyone to the meeting. The attendance seems low, probably due to vacations in July.

2. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

No additions or deletions to agenda.

3. Approval of June Minutes

No additions or corrections to the minutes, correct as submitted.

Mary announced due to the rollout of the new partnership between Children's Network and First 5, there would not be a meeting in August. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on September 16th at 2 p.m. (this time at First 5, 330 North D Street, 5th Floor, San Bernardino.

The next Grant Writing Subcommittee Meeting will be held on August 6th at 10 a.m. at the Department of Children's Services – ARD (Administrative Resources Division). The guest speaker will be Sue Taylor from Children's Network to speak on the Safe Kids Summer Campaign.

4. Wraparound Overview – Renee Bombaci, SSP and Suzanne Ash, Clinical Director from EMQ

Mary introduced Renee Bombaci, SSP from the Department of Children's Services – ARD. Renee announced that Suzanne Ash is out ill so Jennifer Arnold from EMQ Children & Family Services came on her behalf.

Highlights from Renee's and Jennifer's presentation:

- EMQ stands for East Ming Quong.
- Renee referred everyone to the folder of materials that gave further details about the program.
- San Bernardino County, Department of Children's Services has a contract with EMQ based on wraparound services for youth in RCL (Rate Classification Level) 10 to 14 group homes.
- The goal is to provide intensive services to these youth and their families so the youth can live at home, thus avoiding costly group home placements.
- The pilot of this project was started in San Bernardino City.
- The services are focused initially in the cities of San Bernardino, Rialto, Colton, Redlands and Yucaipa.
- During the 3-year pilot more services will be expanded to the Rancho Cucamonga area.
- EMQ assists families whom have had been children removed and in placement for sometimes by providing a variety of services and referrals.

- They are looking more to the community (CBOs – community based organizations and non-profits) to provide wraparound services for the children coming out of upper level group home placements.
- The values and principles of the EMQ project are listed on pages 7 to 10.
- The work is based on strengths of the child and family, not on the problems or ailments they are having.
- The Wraparound services through EMQ are focused on the whole family and not just the child.
- Through the Wraparound services the parents are looked at as experts on what needs they have to be met to strengthen the family.

Jennifer Arnold of EMQ gave the following highlights:

- Jennifer introduced herself as the Program Manager filling in for the Director, Suzanne Ash.
- The EMQ project was started over 100 years in San Francisco focusing on shelter for immigrant girls, and orphans, (more history can be found in the packets).
- Around 10 years ago on 13 to 14 acres in Santa Clara they built a residential treatment facility for; foster care, day treatment, sexual abuse treatment, and lots of Social Services. Their main purpose was to reunite children with their families.
- EMQ did research around the country to see what produced the most effective treatment for families to function socially and academically.
- Their services are based on the Senate Bill 163.
- They had lots of training issues and shifting of the mindset for the wraparound of services.
- CFT (Child Family Teams) look at the basic needs of the family such as; life domain, basic safety, educational needs, transportation and other needs as specified by the family.
- Work is specifically done with parents, foster parents, kinship care providers and others for children in-group home levels of 10 to 14.
- The CFT can be comprised of; a child's baseball coach, counselor, teacher, or extended family member, etc.
- The family members can be taught a planning process and to look at unmet needs in connection with resources, so the family can eventually be functional.
- EMQ has different level of program staff. The first level is a Family Specialist with a degree in the Healing Arts such as Sociology, and experience with; group homes, SED population, and various other fields.
- The next level of staff is a Family Specialist whom has a Master's Degree.
- The Family Facilitator assists with facilitating all the needs of the family.

- The staff provides mediation and clinical skills, but not actual therapy, families are referred out for therapy.
- Jennifer mentioned they are always interested in services the community could provide as wraparound for the whole family.
- Jennifer mentioned they have developed the first team/pod and are handling 24 families with the involvement of 15 to 16 individuals with room for growth.
- Jennifer mentioned that they welcomed feedback from families they serve.

Questions/Comments: They receive referrals from the Department of Children's Services, Department of Behavioral Health and Probation. They specifically work with children in-group home levels 10 to 14. Mary asked how do they deal with the homeless population? Jennifer mentioned they do not work with the homeless population. Jennifer mentioned they would look at housing issues for families. Jennifer responded the services they provide are based on SB 163 funding. The SB 163 is based on funding for foster care – (it is the money that is used for the monthly foster care payments). The CFT keeps track of the foster care funding spent on each child they serve by coordinating with a subcommittee of a variety of individuals from various departments. Jennifer stated they do provide assistance for; emergency food, gas, housing, etc. Mary mentioned that there are 200 group homes in San Bernardino County at the RCL 10 to 14. Jennifer mentioned they currently do not provide services at all the group homes. The funds used for group home placement are funneled through EMQ to provide appropriate wrap around services for the entire family, so the child can be placed at home. Jennifer mentioned they would go outside the box to provide whatever are the most appropriate services for the families.

5. Handouts and Round Table Discussion

√Robert Hernandez of PTLC reported: Robert mentioned that the child already placed in a group home is at-risk as well as the siblings, so when the child returns home lots of support and assistance is needed through the community. Robert mentioned his wife has experience working a group home and has seen lots of things over the years. Robert stated he feels the transition of the child to the home from the group home assists with better emotional connections. At PTLC they offer after school computer literacy programs for junior and senior high youth. The youth can create web pages and various other computer projects. They also provide computer literacy for adults at basic and advance levels. The services they provide are for low income and no income. The funding from the program comes from grants and donations.

√Mary Lou Lutz of San Bernardino City Schools reported: Mary Lou mentioned that the social workers (MFT) at the primary and intermediate San Bernardino City Schools do case management to refer children needing services.

The children who are in group homes or at-risk for group homes going through an IEP (Individual Education Plan). Mary Lou mentioned every Tuesday morning they have an IPC meeting to identify children needing housing, and referrals to other services.

√Mary Jaquish of CBO Partnership/Children's Network reported: As part of the Children's Network Conference on September 18th at the Ontario Convention Center the conference this year will highlight the Redesign of the Child Welfare Services. For further details, there is information in your packets. This year, there is \$10,000 available in scholarships for providers, foster parents, parents and other individuals who provide direct services for children. For further information on the scholarships, you can contact Jennifer Celise-Reyes of Children's Network at (909) 387-5361. The Child Welfare Redesign is based on providing wraparound services to families in need. This will be a shift in the change of thinking for the Department of Children's Services to fully wraparound and partner with service providers in the community. Mary mentioned she distributed a number of conference brochures, and information sheets you are welcomed to sign up for. Mary reminded everyone to make sure they have the correct information on the sign in sheet. Mary has been working with Steve Kniffen from Somebody Cares Southland, Children's Fund, and Mary Lou of San Bernardino City Schools on the backpack program. The backpacks and items to go in them were funded through private donors, a church in Northridge, Children's Fund, and others. The first distribution was on August 4th for 986 elementary school children of Arrowhead Elementary. This group plans to have backpacks and school items distributed to one school each quarter. On October 7th the Governor will have a conference that will be helpful to HSS (Human Services System), community and faith-based agencies. Several topics to be covered and should be a very good conference. Mary mentioned that Hugo Castellanos a social worker from Department of Children's Services holds every weekend in the summer a snap hold kick exercise in NFL for children. He donates his own money and time. He is looking for partners to assist with food, etc. If you would like to donate, please contact Mary for further details. Mary referred everyone to the brochure from Hugo.

Mary wrote the following additional funding opportunities on the white board for those present at the meeting:

1. tcwf.org – California Wellness
2. www.dohenyfoundation.org - Carrie E. Doheny foundation
3. McCarthy Family Foundation, P.O. Box 27389, San Diego, Ca 92198
4. www.nllcf.org - Nancy Lynn foundation
5. www.pacificare.com - Pacificare Health Systems
6. www.timesmirrorfoundation - Times Mirror Foundation
7. Office of Education – www.ed.gov/offices/ocf/

Mary mentioned that there are lots of grants available for disabled, special education, and mentoring. An inquiry letter is due September 15th to the Nancy Lynn Foundation for grant funding on health, self-esteem, child abuse prevention, etc.

Pacific Care has a deadline of January 1st for funding on counseling, shelters, and transportation. The Times Mirror Foundation is asking for proposals due in July for discretionary funds. The Community Foundation has a grant cycle open August 1st for community impact projects. Mary referred everyone to the City of San Bernardino map with agencies having listed addresses, and telephone numbers.

The presentation from Jose Marquez from the California Endowment gave a very good presentation in June and mentioned the focus of the funding will be on health related issues for children. She also referred everyone to the flyer on Radio Disney; “Disney” has a van with staff that will come out to events in the community during July and August. For further details contact Angie at the Department of Public Health (909) 387-6380. You will also find in the back of your packets information on free books for children.

√Joy Ellington of Educational Eclipse reported: Joy mentioned she has written grants for funding from California Endowment and Kaiser Permanente Hospital. Joy focuses on academic excellence for high school students. She acts as a liaison to connect high school students with work site tours. Joy has worked with Melinda of Building A Generation and staff from Smith and Barney. She is working with students to explain; the value of money, community service work, and sets up tours for cultural arts. She has a tour scheduled for students on the Metro link Green Line to go to the City of Inglewood, City of Fontana MTA buses, and museum to see a Korean exhibit. They will also tour a restaurant and have gumbo. They will finish the day with an open poetry session. The event Joy has planned will probably have 20 students in attendance from 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Joy mentioned she could use assistance with more chaperones. Joy is planning one more trip for high school students, if she can get some grant funding.

√Renee Bombaci of Department of Children’s Services – ARD reported: Renee is busy working on the Wraparound Services pilot. She is looking for grants for the CSOC – (Children’s System of Care) through SAMSHA. Renee is also working on the Children’s Network Child Welfare Redesign Conference on September 18th at the Ontario Convention Center.

√Veatrice Jews of IECAAC reported: They just recently had an article in The Sun Telegram. They were also involved in a Press Conference with the DA and Public Defender on the Community Flee Program to help offenders with minor violations. They plan to deal with matters of; traffic citations, outstanding warrants, and eliminate some barriers. The first meeting of the group will be at the Temple Baptist Church on 5083 West Union on Thursday, July 17th – the Pastor can be reached at (909) 428-4939. On July 26th at 1424 West 24th Street they will be coordinating with Sandy Golden for car seat distribution. The Health Fair will be on Saturday, October 25th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Hunts Elementary School. Veatrice mentioned that they plan to open some Literacy Centers at 20 churches starting August 4th. They will expand the project to eventually 100 churches.

Cal-State San Bernardino has donated some computers and video monitoring equipment. If you would like to be a vendor, contact Veatrice at (909) 884-7522.

Renee Bombaci of Department of Children's Services announced a conference on September 19th at the San Bernardino Hilton to focus on leadership and team building. The cost is \$199 for a full day. Please call 1-800-873-7545 to find out about conference registration.

√Raylene Argulo of Planned Parenthood of San Bernardino reported: Through a grant from the California Wellness Foundation they have 2 peer providers to provide health education. They have a teen pregnancy prevention clinic that charges no cost or low cost services. They do outreach through the community by presentations on health issues such as sexual diseases, relationships, and a variety of other topics.

√Tanya Mejia of Public Health reported: They provide reproductive health services similar to Planned Parenthood. Tanya referred everyone to the brochures she distributed.

√Mary Lou Lutz of San Bernardino City Schools reported: Mary Lou mentioned the schools are involved with the School Linked Services to get as many services as possible for students. Lots of their programs are based on Emmerton Elementary in the rest of the city schools. San Bernardino City Schools has a current enrollment of 55,000 children. Mary Lou has been involved with the Backpack Program and coordinates services for children through Children's Fund, the Healthy Start Program, Somebody Cares Southland and any other services she can find.

√Robin Crandall of New House, Inc. reported: They coordinate Drug Court Services for women. They provide housing and childcare for women coming out of Drug Court. They have opened a new facility on Orange Show Road in San Bernardino. They are presently waiting for Community Care Licensing to come out to the childcare facility.

√Joe Guzman of the Mental Health Systems, Inc. reported: Through the Drug Court they provide the Taurus Substance Abuse Program. The clients must have Medi-Cal and then they can receive; Drug and Alcohol Services, Case Management Services, and Self-Help Groups. For further details they can be contacted at (909) 890-1523.

√June Chandler of Early Head Start reported: They are busy unpacking from their move to 720 S. "E" Street in San Bernardino. They currently have 135 enrolled in their program, with 25 as special needs children referred from the Inland Regional Center. They currently have 50 slots for children, but are still waiting for Community Care Licensing. They have programs for the 0 to 3, prenatal, childcare center, in San Bernardino, Colton, and Rialto.

√Stephani Congdon, Bethel Community Outreach reported: Bethel Community Outreach was able to get a grant for their nutrition program through the California Endowment. She is also working with Somebody Cares Southland and has a signed MOU to put together a Neighborhood Service Center and Mobile Health Unit for Northern San Bernardino. There is a collaborative program with the churches to have a pastor on the premises of Golden Valley school. They are also working through partnership on a HUD grant for the neighborhood regeneration. In the fall, there are plans to have a 4-hour workshop on a weekend for community leaders, business, parents, and other interested parties to design what an ideal community would look like. Stephani will keep us posted on the details of this upcoming workshop.

√Nick Watson of the Department of Public Health reported: He primarily works with high-risk pregnant and parenting adolescents. The program is works with deals with youth that are 12 to 18. The YESS program funding ended in May, 2003. Nick reminded the group that the Public Health Clinics cover a variety of services for the low-income families at a low cost or no cost. Mary thanked Nick for supporting a CBO that applied for a grant with Public Health to be a partner. Mary mentioned that is an example of the county working with the private sector to serve them the best they can possibly serve.

√Kevin Burton of Valley Star Children & Family Services reported: Valley Star is a new contract agency working with the Department of Behavioral Health. They are located at 1585 South "D" Street, Suite 101, San Bernardino in a 19,000 square foot two story building. Kevin mentioned they have a whole floor of the building that could be leased to some other agency, let anyone know of the availability. Valley Star primarily works with youth to provide mental health services. They presently have an MOU with schools covering the East Valley, Central Valley, and some of the west end. They have staff that will go to the schools, group homes, or wherever child is, especially if the child can not come to their office due to transportation issues. Some of the children they see have problems with; school, suffer depression, anxiety, out of control, etc. Valley Star staff plans to have an Open House in September. They are also presently applying for RFP dealing with ILP training.

√Venice Waggoner of County Preschool Services reported: They serve children 3 to 5 years of age in full day, part day, and extended day care. They now have a 9-month program for extended day care from the hours of 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

√Ted Henson of the San Bernardino Police Department reported: Ted mentioned that the San Bernardino Police Department is now focusing more on community policing by providing intervention and prevention, since jail is not always the best alternative. San Bernardino Police Department is hosting a Community Summit on October 11th at the Radisson. The conference is free and will offer 8 interactive workshops. To register contact Sherry Williams at (909) 384-5613 or go to the web site <http://www.ci.san-bernardino.ca.us/>. The focus this year will be to keep youth out of the criminal justice system. Jack Brown from Stator Bros. will be the keynote speaker.

The San Bernardino Police Department works closely with the San Bernardino County, District Attorney on the community policing with positive results. The fastest growing crime is identity theft. The first Market Night will be held tonight, July 15th from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Perris Hill park. So far there will be 60 vendors.

√Melinda Corral of Building A Generation reported: They work with youth in the age group of 12 to 18 that have court ordered community service. They plan to have a teen newsletter printed and distributed in September. They are also involved with the Youth Accountability Board. They will be hosting a workshop on September 13th for teens, parents, and guardians on a variety of topics. They serve the residents of Mentone, Yucaipa, San Bernardino, and Redlands. They are also working on a grant with First 5 to expand their services for younger youth. Melinda passed around a job flyer for an Executive Director. Building A Generation is funded through the city of Redlands. They are looking to transition to a non-profit status.

**6. NEXT MEETING DATE: September 16, 2003
2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**First 5 San Bernardino
330 North D Street, Fifth Floor
San Bernardino**

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Williams, Recording Secretary
Children's Network

/tgw